

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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SUBJ: DENKTAS COMMENTS TO TURKISH PRESS ON VIENNA

SECOND ROUND

1. TURKISH CYPRIOT FEDERATED STATE (TCFS) PRESIDENT RAUF DENKTAS, WHILE IN ANKARA JUNE 9, CAST HIS VOTE FOR THE TCFS CONSTITUTION AND MET THE PRESS. DENKTAS MAINTAINED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME PROGRESS DURING HIS ROUND OF TALKS IN VIENNA WITH GREEK CYPRIOT LEADER GLAFKOS CLERIDES, IN THAT "THE TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED EMERGED AND THE TURKISH STAND WAS CONVEYED TO THE OTHER SIDE IN ALL SINCERITY", BUT HE WARNED THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS "MUST ALSO ESTABLISH THEIR POLICY AND SHAKE THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP EXTENDED TO THEM IF THEY WANT TO REACH AN AGREEMENT."

2. DENKTAS DEFENDED HIS PROPOSAL AT VIENNA THAT AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT BE SET UP AS A WAY TO ENABLE THE NEGOTIATORS TO "CONCENTRATE ON WHAT POWERS WE CAN HAND TO THE JOINT GOVERNMENT, SO THAT IT WILL NOT BE MORE DIFFICULT FOR US TO COME TOGETHER IN FUTURE BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE SEPARATION." EXPANDING UNCLASSIFIED

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ON HIS PROPOSAL, HE SAID THE TURKISH CYPRIOT APPROACH WAS TO

URGE THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TO "COOPERATE ON CERTAIN TOPICS. THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE STATES. WE CAN GO TOWARDS FURTHER SEPARATION AND DECLARE OUR FULL INDEPENDENCE, BUT WE DO NOT DO THIS. WE WAIT WITH GOODWILL. OUR PROPOSAL IS THE OUTCOME OF THIS GOOD-WILLED WAITING ON OUR PART."

3. HE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT "THE GREEKS CHOSE TO LOOK FOR ULTERIOR MOTIVES IN THIS. THEY SAID THAT THE TURKS' INTENTION WAS TO TAKE AWAY THE LAST POWERS LEFT IN THE HANDS OF THE GREEK ADMINISTRATION, THAT IS, ITS POWERS AND DUTY TO PUBLICIZE ITS CAUSE AND RAISE ITS COMPLAINTS IN THE WORLD AS THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT... TURKS WANTED TO ENTER THIS PROPOSED INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND OBSTRUCT (THE GREEKS) FROM WITHIN BY MEANS OF IT, THEY SAID. OF COURSE WE WANT THE DISCONTINUATION OF THE PROPAGANDA. IN FACT, THIS UGLY AND IMMORAL PROPAGANDA MUST COME TO AN END SO THAT THE NECESSARY ATMOSPHERE OF GOODWILL CAN BE ESTABLISHED FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE PEACE EFFORTS. THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS FOR OUR PROPOSAL OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT. BUT THE TRUE REASON IS THE ALLEVIATION OF THE PRESSURE WHICH GOES ON AND PUSHES US INTO FULL INDEPENDENCE AS IT CONTINUES."

4. DENKTAS WENT ON TO COUNSEL PREPAREDNESS FOR POSSIBLE GREEK CYPRIOT MILITARY MOVES: "EVEN IF THEY FOLLOW A POLICY OF MAKING EVERY GREEK HOUSE A FORTRESS AND EVERY GREEK AN ARMED SOLDIER, AS SOME GREEK CYPRIOT OFFICIALS SAY, IT WILL STILL NOT BE ENOUGH ... I SEE THE GREEK ARMAMENT, THEIR ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM BY FORCE OF ARMS, AS SUICIDE. IT WOULD BE UTTER MADNESS ON THEIR PART. BUT IN THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY THERE ARE GROUPS AND MEN WHO SUDDENLY ATTEMPT TO DO WHAT LOGIC AND GOOD-WILLED CALCULATION REJECT. WE MUST THEREFORE BE PREPARED. AS A NATION AND COMMUNITY WE MUST BE ALERT."

5. DENKTAS BLAMED THE GREEK CYPRIOTS FOR PREJUDICING THE VIENNA MEETING BY APPEALING TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND ASSERTED: "DESPITE THIS, WE PUT FORWARD OUR VIEWS ABOUT THE POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND OUR APPROACH TO THIS MATTER. WE EXPLAINED THE TURKISH OPINION IN DETAIL. BUT STILL CLERIDES DID NOT WANT TO GIVE US AN ANSWER. HE WANTED US TO TACKLE THE LAND AND REFUGEE QUESTION: WHAT CONCESSIONS WE WOULD GIVE ON THESE MATTERS; WHAT WE WANTED TO DO

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ABOUT THESE ISSUES. HE SAID HE WOULD NOT GO ON WITH THE TALKS BEFORE LEARNING THESE POINTS. IN FACT, WE KNEW BEFOREHAND THAT THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, WHICH HAS BEEN FORMED BY MAKARIOS WITH EXTREMIST ELEMENTS, HAD INSTRUCTED CLERIDES TO FOLLOW AN 'ALL OR NOTHING' POLICY. THIS WAS WHY, AS SOON AS CLERIDES SET FOOT IN VIENNA, HE TALKED OF LEAVING THE CONFERENCE IF THE REFERENDUM WAS HELD. BUT WITH OUR GOODWILLED AND OPEN-HEARTED CONDUCT AND THE EXPRESSION OF OUR OPINION ON EVERY TOPIC, AS WELL AS WALDHEIM'S

STANCE, WE MANAGED TO CONDUCT THE TALKS FOR THREE DAYS."

6. DENKTAS SAID HE WOULD GIVE THE GREEKS HIS INTERIM GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL IN WRITING WHEN HE RETURN TO CYPRUS. HE HAD BEEN ASKED, HE SAID, WHETHER THE TURKISH SIDE WOULD ACCEPT ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AS HEAD OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT. "I GAVE NO ANSWER TO THIS, EITHER IN VIENNA OR HERE. IT DEPENDS ON HOW THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT'S STRUCTURE WILL BE TACKLED. WE WILL DISCUSS THIS TOPIC WITH OUR EXPERTS. WHATEVER THE FINDINGS ARE, WE WILL MAKE UP OUR MIND ACCORDINGLY AND PUT FORWARD OUR PROPOSALS IN THAT DIRECTION." HE ALSO SAID THAT "THE TURKISH MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE ARE READY TO PROCEED WITH THEIR ACTIVITIES. IF THE GREEK SIDE ALSO TAKE PART, THEY CAN CONTINUE WITH THEIR CONTACTS ON THE POWERS OF THE JOINT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT."

7. IN RELATED PRESS COVERAGE: MASS CIRCULATION HURRIYET JUNE 10 REPORTS THAT THE MAKARIOS GOVERNMENT AND GREEK CYPRIOT CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL MET JUNE 9 AND CONCLUDED THAT THE VIENNA SECOND ROUND TALKS HAD BEEN A FIASCO; REPORTEDLY, CLERIDES' RESPONSE TO DENKTAS' INTERIM GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL WAS CRITICIZED AS A "BLUNDER" BECAUSE HE HAD NOT OBJECTED STRONGLY ENOUGH. ALSO, THE TCFS HAS REPORTEDLY ABOLISHED VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR TURKISH NATIONALS, AND THE FIRST PASSENGERS WITHOUT VISAS WENT TO CYPRUS BY TURKISH AIRLINES JUNE 9.
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